

**BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 16th – 5:30 P.M**

President Troy Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Troy Tenneson, Perry Kujak, David Thompson, Michele Steien, Neil Kniseley, Sarah Staff, and Blaine Koxlien. Also present: Lynn Halverson, Dana Eide, Beth Lisowski, Katie Belitz, Kristie Gill, Skyler Kessel, and Ciera Beaman. Meeting also on Wildcat TV.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Motion by S. Staff , with second by M. Steien to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Mission statement- "To educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens" read aloud.

Public comment

Motion by D. Thompson, with second by N Kniseley to approve December 2022 regular and closed meeting minutes. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by M. Steien, with second by D. Thompson to approve bills for the month of December 2022. Motion passed by roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson with a second by S. Staff to approve the December 2022 financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote 7-0.

Reports:

Superintendent-Lynn Halverson - Mr. Halverson presented an update from Big River Group regarding the district strategic planning meeting results with staff and the community. The main concerns being the compensation model, staff retention, providing a safe environment for students and the possibility of hiring a Dean of Students. Mr. Halverson read a note from Mrs. Swenson thanking the board for the opportunity to present the instructional coaching program at Blair-Taylor. Mr. Halverson presented a certificate of Recognition to school board member Blaine Koxlien celebrating 20 years of service on the Blair-Taylor school board.

MS/HS Principal -Dana Eide - Mrs. Eide introduced Skylar Kessel and Ciara Beaman from our new Educators Rising group. Educators Rising is a community working towards inspiring more people to enter the education field.

Elementary Principal - Beth Lisowski -Mrs. Lisowski reported in the elementary that our first semester ended Friday, January 13th. Report cards will be going out soon. We plan to have a family bingo night Thursday, January 19th with a meal and prizes. She started our Out of School Time plan. We have two teachers that are co-coordinators with the hope to begin February 1st. This will provide before and after school activities for our students.

Special Ed Director - Katie Belitz - Ms. Belitz reported to the board that Child Development Days will be held the evening of February 2nd, 2023 from 5:00-8:00 pm and the morning of February 3rd, 2023 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. Families can sign up for a time slot by calling the elementary office.

Discussion Items:

Mr. Halverson presented again the need of going to an operational referendum to replenish our fund balance, maintain current operations and opportunities for our students, and staff retention. In the last couple of years we have depleted our fund balance. The district should be at roughly \$1.4 to 1.5 million dollars. Mr. Halverson is recommending to ask our taxpayers to raise our tax levy to obtain a \$1,500,000 non recurring referendum for the next three years to attract and retain staff, to maintain our current operations and opportunities for our students and rebuild our fund balance to where it needs to be.

Action Items:

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by N. Kniseley, to approve - 2023-24 School Year Calendar. Motion carried.

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by S. Staff, to cap the amount of special education open enrollment. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Kniseley, with a second by D. Thompson, to approve the Consent Agenda Items: being the resignation of Juliann Carmona, approving our consortium van drivers, Leif Olson, Rob Olson, and Bonnie Johnson, also approving Felicia Andrews as a Child care assistant teacher. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by M. Steien, to move to closed session in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1)(c)(f), to discuss district administrator contract/evaluation and all administrative position contracts/evaluations. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Reconvene in open session to take or announce any action, if any and if appropriate, arising out of closed session.

Respectfully submitted,



David Thompson, Clerk